Letters of Support for Red Line Transportation Opportunities Plans (TOPS) TIGER Grant Application	
Organization	Contact Name
Mayor, City of Baltimore	Stephanie Rawlings-Blake
Baltimore City Council- Dist. 9	Councilman William Cole
Baltimore City Council- Dist. 10	Councilman Edward Reisinger
Baltimore City Council- Dist. 11	Councilman William Welch
Maryland General Assembly- Dist. 44A	Senator Verna Jones-Rodwell
Maryland General. Assembly- Dist. 40	Delegate Shawn Tarrant
Maryland General. Assembly, Dist. 44	Delegate Melvin Stukes
Congress of the United States	Senator Benjamin Cardin
Congress of the United States	Congressman Elijah Cummings
Congress of the United States	Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger
Congress of the United States	Congressman John Sarbanes
Maryland Transit Administration	Robert Smith
Baltimore City Planning Department	Thomas J. Stosur
Baltimore Regional Transportation Board	Anthony McCune
Baltimore AIA	Tom Liebel
Baltimore Heritage	Johns Hopkins
Baltimore Industrial Group	Rupert Denny
Baltimore Integration Partnership	Kurt Somner
Baltimore Neighborhood Collaborative	Ann Sherill
Baltimore Office of Sustainability	Beth Strommen
Beatty Development Group	Marco Greenberg
Bon Secours Baltimore Health Systems	Samuel Ross
Central Maryland Transportation Alliance	Brian O'Malley
Citizens Planning & Housing Association	Mel Freeman
Community Law Center	Kristine Dunkerson, Esq
Community Resident/West Balt. TOD	Jay Andrew Keithline
Coppin State University	Gary Rodwell
East Baltimore Development Inc	Cheryl Washington
Evergreen Protective Association	Dr. John Bullock
Greater Baltimore Committee	Don Fry
Greater Baltimore Urban League	J. Howard Henson
Greektown Community Development Corp.	George Moniodis
Johns Hopkins University & Medicine	Greg Smith
Southeast Community Development Corp.	Chris Reyer
University of MD Balt. Research Park Corp.	James Hughes
Visit Baltimore	Tom Noonan



100 Holliday Street, Room 250 Baltimore, Maryland 21202

April 21, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am pleased to offer this letter in support of the City of Baltimore's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application for Master Planning Studies of Improved Intermodal Access to Baltimore Red Line Stations and Transit Oriented Development.

In the Baltimore Metropolitan area, we know that the Red Line is the first step in the ongoing development of an interconnected regional transit system that will serve major job and activity centers, universities, shopping centers, tourist attractions and entertainment centers. In addition to improving transit options for transit riders who commute from suburban areas to jobs and cultural events in Baltimore City, the Red Line will connect City residents with employment opportunities inside and outside of the City and improve the quality of life for all people in the Baltimore region.

When it was identified in the 2002 Baltimore Regional Rail System Plan as a priority project, we were confident that the Red Line would optimize the use of the existing transit system and serve as a catalyst for community revitalization and economic development. As our country looks for ways to better leverage transportation investments in these tight fiscal times, your approval of TIGER Grant funding for this project will bring the full economic development potential of the Red Line to fruition.

The Red Line Transit Oriented Development Study that is proposed in the City's TIGER Grant application will allow us to establish a framework for the City's investment in transportation, education, recreation, and economic development. In addition, it will provide the strategies required to make maximum use of the federal, state and local investment in the Red Line. I urge the US Department of Transportation to give full consideration to the City of Baltimore's proposal.

Funding from your agency will provide the means to invest in Baltimore's urban core while building the transportation infrastructure essential to support sustainable economic growth and access to economic opportunity.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Rawlings-Blake

Mayor

City of Baltimore

# BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL

## WILLIAM H. COLE IV — Eleventh District



CITY HALL, ROOM 527 100 N. HOLLIDAY STREET, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202 TELEPHONE: 410-396-4816 FAX 410-545-7464 william.cole@baltimorecity.gov

April 14, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support for the City of Baltimore's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application for Master Planning Studies of Improved Intermodal Access to Baltimore Red Line Stations and Transit Oriented Development

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am pleased to offer this letter in support of the City of Baltimore's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application for Master Planning Studies of Improved Intermodal Access to Baltimore Red Line Stations and Transit Oriented Development.

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I urge the US Department of Transportation to give full consideration to the City of Baltimore's proposal. Funding from your agency will provide the means to invest in Baltimore's urban core while building the transportation infrastructure essential to support sustainable economic growth

and access to economic opportunity. If I may be of further assistance or provide additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

William H. Cole IV

# BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

# **EDWARD L. REISINGER — Tenth District**

ROOM 509, CITY HALL 100 N. HOLLIDAY STREET, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202 TELEPHONE: 410-396-4822 FAX: 410-545-7353 EMAIL: Edward.Reisinger@baltimorecity.gov

> CHAIRMAN: LAND USE & TRANSPORTATION

COMMITTEE

MEMBER:
TAXATION & FINANCE COMMITTEE
BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS

PATTIMORE 197

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support for the City of Baltimore's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application for Master Planning Studies of Improved Intermodal Access to Baltimore Red Line Stations and Transit Oriented Development

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I urge the US Department of Transportation to give full consideration to the City of Baltimore's proposal. Funding from your agency will provide the means to invest in Baltimore's urban core while building the transportation infrastructure essential to support sustainable economic growth and access to economic opportunity. If I may be of further assistance or provide additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely

Edwarf Gusi

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS:
VICE CHAIR
EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS
EDUCATION
HEALTH
URBAN AFFAIRS AND AGING
HOUSING
COMMUNITY DEVELOPEMENT

April 11, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support for the City of Baltimore's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application for Master Planning Studies of Improved Intermodal Access to Baltimore Red Line Stations and Transit Oriented Development

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The Honorable Anthony Foxx April 11, 2014 Page Two

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Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Councilman William "Pete" Welch

William Pete Heles face

**Baltimore City Council** 

9<sup>th</sup> District

# VERNA JONES-RODWELL 44th Legislative District Baltimore City

Budget and Taxation Committee Chair, Pensions Subcommittee

Senate Chair, Joint Committee on the Management of Public Funds

Chair, Baltimore City Senate Delegation

Secretary, Women Legislators of Maryland, Inc.



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Verna. Jones@senate.state.md.us

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1701 Madison Avenue, Suite 510
Baltimore, Maryland 21217
410-669-6355 · Fax 410-669-6801

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support for the City of Baltimore's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application for Master Planning Studies of Improved Intermodal Access to Baltimore Red Line Stations and Transit Oriented Development

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I urge the US Department of Transportation to give full consideration to the City of Baltimore's proposal. Funding from your agency will provide the means to invest in Baltimore's urban core while building the transportation infrastructure essential to support sustainable economic growth and access to economic opportunity. If I may be of further assistance or provide additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at my office at 410-841-3612 or by email at verna.jones@senate.state.md.us.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Verna Jones-Rodwell

Chair, Baltimore City Delegation

Maryland State Senator

District 44

SHAWN Z. TARRANT 40th Legislative District Baltimore City

DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

Health and Government Operations Committee

Subcommittees
Insurance
Government Operations



# THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES Annapolis, Maryland 21401

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Fax 410-841-3279
Shawn.Tarrant@house.state.md.us

District Office 2901 Druid Park Drive, Suite 200E Baltimore, Maryland 21215 410-728-0361 Fax 410-728-6949

April 15, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support for the City of Baltimore's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application for Master Planning Studies of Improved Intermodal Access to Baltimore Red Line Stations and Transit Oriented Development

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am pleased to offer this letter in support of the City of Baltimore's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application for Master Planning Studies of Improved Intermodal Access to Baltimore Red Line Stations and Transit Oriented Development.

In the Baltimore Metropolitan area we know that the Red Line is the first step in the ongoing development of an interconnected regional transit system that will serve major job and activity centers, universities, shopping centers, tourist attractions and entertainment centers. In addition to improving transit options for transit riders who commute from suburban areas to jobs and cultural events in Baltimore City the Red Line will connect city residents with employment opportunities inside and outside of the city and improve the quality of life for all people in the Baltimore region.

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The Red Line Transit Oriented Development Study that is proposed in the City's TIGER Grant application will allow us to establish a framework for the City's investment in transportation, education, recreation, and economic development. In addition it will provide the strategies required to make maximum use of the federal, state and local investment in the Red Line.

I urge the US Department of Transportation to give full consideration to the City of Baltimore's proposal. Funding from your agency will provide the means to invest in Baltimore's urban core while building the transportation infrastructure essential to support sustainable economic growth and access to economic opportunity. If I may be of further assistance or provide additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Shawn Z. Tarrant

Delegate

40<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

**Baltimore City** 

SZT/pln

MELVIN L. STUKES
44th Legislative District
Baltimore City

Ways and Means Committee

Subcommittees
Finance Resources
Revenues



April 15, 2014

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2500 Edmondson Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21223
410-566-1731 · Fax 410-566-1734

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support for the City of Baltimore's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application for Master Planning Studies of Improved Intermodal Access to Baltimore Red Line Stations and Transit Oriented Development

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am pleased to offer this letter in support of the City of Baltimore's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application for Master Planning Studies of Improved Intermodal Access to Baltimore Red Line Stations and Transit Oriented Development.

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When it was identified in the 2002 Baltimore Regional Rail System Plan as a priority project we were confident that the Red Line would optimize the use of the existing transit system and serve as a catalyst for community revitalization and economic development. As our country looks for ways to better leverage transportation investments in these tight fiscal times your approval of TIGER Grant funding for this project will bring the full economic development potential of the Red Line to fruition.

The Red Line Transit Oriented Development Study that is proposed in the City's TIGER Grant application will allow us to establish a framework for the City's investment in transportation, education, recreation, and economic development. In addition it will provide the strategies required to make maximum use of the federal, state and local investment in the Red Line.

I urge the US Department of Transportation to give full consideration to the City of Baltimore's proposal. Funding from your agency will provide the means to invest in Baltimore's urban core while building the transportation infrastructure essential to support sustainable economic growth and access to economic opportunity. If I may be of further assistance or provide additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Melvin L. Stukes

Delegate, District 44

# Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

April 18, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

It has come to our attention that the City of Baltimore will be submitting a proposal for a TIGER VI Discretionary Grant to fund the Red Line Transportation Opportunities Plan (REDTOP). The Red Line is a 14-mile light rail line that runs east-west through Baltimore and REDTOP is a Functional Master Plan for how the City will invest in the vicinities of the seven Red Line stations. Specifically, REDTOP will determine how to implement "last mile" transportation connections between the seven Red Line stations and their surrounding neighborhoods and how the City will make investments in education, recreation and economic development to best leverage the Red Line.

The goal of REDTOP is to provide the best transportation connections between the Red Line and the communities it serves as well as focus on investment decisions to be made by the City. Specifically, REDTOP will:

- Enhance economic development, ridership and other goals established during the Red Line project development and engineering processes;
- Facilitate multimodal connectivity and accessibility;
- Increase access to transit hubs for pedestrian and bicycle traffic;
- Enable mixed-use development;
- Identify infrastructure needs; and
- Facilitate private sector participation.

REDTOP will plan for infrastructure and community investments in Baltimore City neighborhoods that have experienced long-term decline. We respectfully request that the City of Baltimore's funding application for REDTOP receive full consideration. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Benjamin L. Cardin United States Senator

Member of Congress

C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger

Member of Congress

Member of Congress



#### MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

#### MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Martin O'Malley, Governor • Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor James T. Smith, Jr., Secretary • Robert L. Smith, Administrator

April 17, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx, Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S. E. Washington, DC 20590

SUBJECT:

Letter of Support for Baltimore City's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application

for Master Planning Studies of Improved Intermodal Access to Baltimore Red

Line Stations and Transit Oriented Development

## Dear Secretary Foxx:

The Maryland Transit Administration (MTA), a division of the Maryland Department of Transportation, is pleased to offer this letter in support of the City of Baltimore's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application for Master Planning Studies. As proposed, this study will lead to the development of a Functional Master Plan for Improved Intermodal Access to Baltimore's Red Line Light Rail Stations and Transit Oriented Development.

The Red Line Light Rail was identified in 2002 in the Baltimore Regional Rail System Plan as a priority project. Public involvement began in the spring of 2003 with project scoping meetings. The City of Baltimore has been a strategic partner in the public outreach, planning and design process from the very beginning of the project.

The Red Line is an integral component toward the MTA's goal of maximizing ridership growth by enhancing intermodal connectivity and it supports the regions long term goal of building an interconnected regional transit system. In addition to improving transit options for transit riders who commute from suburban areas to jobs and cultural events in Baltimore City, the Red Line will connect city residents with employment and training opportunities that may be available outside of the city.

The Red Line spans several communities with diverse economic conditions. There is a high level of confidence that the Red Line can be a driving force behind community revitalization and economic development at station locations along the corridor. I am confident that the communities that are identified in the City's grant application will benefit from the access improvements and TOD strategies that develop from this Functional Master Plan. The Plan will establish interagency partnerships, policies, plans, strategies for ladders of opportunity, strengthening access and connection to employment, workforce development, affordable housing, education, recreation, public safety and economic development.

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Page 2

When completed, the Red Line Transit Oriented Development Study proposed in the City's TIGER Grant application will allow the Region to establish a framework for the City's investment in transportation, education, recreation, and economic development. In addition, it will provide the strategies required to make maximum use of the federal, state and local investment in the Red Line.

Please give full consideration to the City of Baltimore's proposal. Funding from your agency will provide the means to invest in Baltimore's urban core while building the transportation infrastructure essential to support sustainable economic growth and access to economic opportunity. If I can be of further assistance or provide additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-767-3943 or rsmith25@mta.maryland.gov.

Sincerely, Routh Smill

Robert L. Smith Administrator & CEO

Maryland Transit Administration

The Honorable Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, Mayor cc:

Mr. Pat Keller, Acting Deputy Administrator for Planning, Programming & Engineering,

**MTA** 

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE Mayor



April 23, 2104

Secretary Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

RE: Red Line Transportation Opportunities Plan - TIGER Planning Grant

# Dear Secretary Foxx:

It has come to my attention that the City of Baltimore, Maryland, will soon submit a proposal for a TIGER VI Discretionary Grant to fund the Red Line Transportation Opportunities Plan (TOPS). TOPS, which is a Functional Master Plan, will establish a framework for the City's investment in transportation, education, recreation, and economic development. Through an interdisciplinary, inter-jurisdictional and stakeholder driven process, TOPS will plan for infrastructure and community investments that:

- Derive the full community benefit of the federal, state and local Red Line commitment;
- Optimize productivity of the transportation system and public/private investment;
- Realize improved community connections to regional economic opportunities;
- Maximize public and private involvement in transforming Baltimore: and,
- Develop policies to promote sustainable economic development and job creation.

The implementation of TOPS will lead to investment in Baltimore's citizens. It will establish interagency partnerships, policies, plans and strategies for ladders of opportunity. These will include strengthening access and connection to employment, workforce development, affordable housing, education, recreation, public safety and economic development.

Over the past several years, the Red Line has garnered the support and backing it needs to improve residents' access to opportunities. However, for the Red Line to meet its mobility, housing, employment, and economic opportunity goals, this can only be achieved through forward-thinking programming and strategic investments.

Under TOPS, multi-year programs will be developed for access and connectivity by all transportation modes through intra-city, inter-regional, and other investments. TOPS will establish metrics, project schedules, and budgets for the management of the programs. Milestones will be established to measure performance in delivering expected benefits.

I would respectfully request that the City of Baltimore's funding application for TOPS receive full consideration, in accordance with established policies and procedures.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Stosur

Director, Baltimore City Planning Department



City of Annapolis Mike Pantelides Mayor

Anne Arundel County Laura Neuman County Executive

City of Baltimore Stephanie Rawlings-Blake Mayor

> Baltimore County Kevin Kamenetz County Executive

Carroll County
Haven Shoemaker
Member, Board of Commissioners

Harford County David R. Craig County Executive

Howard County Ken Ulman County Executive

Maryland Department of Transportation James T. Smith Secretary

Maryland Department of the Environment Robert Summers, Ph.D. Secretary

> Maryland Department of Planning Richard E. Hall Secretary

Maryland Transit Administration Robert Smith Administrator

Offices @ McHenry Row 1500 Whetstone Way, Suite 300 Baltimore, MD 21230 Telephone 410-732-0500 Facsimile 410-732-8248 www.baltometro.org April 16, 2014

Secretary Anthony Foxx
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

The Baltimore Regional Transportation Board, the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Baltimore region, is pleased to offer its support to the City of Baltimore for its application for planning funding under the FY 2014 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) VI Discretionary Grant Program. The Baltimore Regional Transportation Board is committed to adding all funds awarded under this Discretionary Program to the Transportation Improvement Program immediately upon award.

The TIGER Planning Grant Program will allow the City to develop a Functional Master Plan through an interdisciplinary, inter-jurisdictional and stakeholder driven process to plan for infrastructure and community investments to derive the full community benefit of the federal, state and local Red Line Light Rail Line commitment.

The BRTB appreciates your strong consideration of this City of Baltimore application as it directly responds to goals identified in the Baltimore region's long-range transportation plan.

Sincerely,

Anthony McClune, Chair

April 17, 2014

#### **Red Line Transportation Operation Plan (Planning Grant)**

Secretary Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

The Baltimore Chapter of the American Institute of Architects has always supported opportunities for effective community engagement and comprehensive planning.

It has come to our attention that the City of Baltimore, Maryland, will soon submit a proposal for a TIGER VI Discretionary Grant to fund the Red Line Transportation Opportunities Plan (REDTOP). The REDTOP, which is a Functional Master Plan, will establish a framework for the City's investment in transportation, education, recreation, and economic development. Through an interdisciplinary, inter-jurisdictional and stakeholder driven process, REDTOP will plan for infrastructure and community investments that:

- Derives the full community benefit of the federal, state and local Red Line commitment;
- Optimizes productivity of the transportation system and public/private investment;
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- Maximizes public and private involvement in transforming Baltimore: and,
- Develops policies to promote sustainable economic development and job creation.

The implementation of REDTOP will lead to an investment in Baltimore's citizens. It will establish interagency partnerships, policies, plans and strategies for ladders of opportunity. These will include strengthening access and connection to employment, workforce development, affordable housing, education, recreation, public safety and economic development.

Multi-year programs will be developed for access and connectivity by all transportation modes through intra city, inter regional; and other investments. REDTOP will establish metrics, project schedules, and budgets for the management of the programs. Milestones will be established to measure performance in delivering expected benefits.

We respectfully request that the City of Baltimore's funding application for REDTOP receive full consideration, in accordance with established policies and procedures.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Tom Liebel, FAIA, LEED Fellow 2014 President, AIABaltimore

BALTIMORE CHAPTER

THE
AMERICAN
INSTITUTE
OF
ARCHITECTS

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www.aiabalt.com

WORKING TOGETHER TO PRESERVE AND PLAN BALTIMORE'S FUTURI

11% WEST CHASE STREET, BALTIMORE, MD 21201 • 410.332.9992 • baltimoreheritage.org

April 17, 2014

Katherine A. Hearn President

Jean Rambo Hankey

1st Vice President

Professor John R. Breihan 2nd Vice President

Elise A. Butler, Esq. *Treasurer* 

Stephen Sattler Recording Secretary

Mary Beth Lennon Membership Secretary

Will Backstrom Past President

Ralph Brown, MD Andrew J. Colletta Matthew Compton, AIA Elizabeth Doyle Arlene B. Fisher Mark S. Foster David A. Gadsby Douglas R. Gorius Krista D. Green Lesley Humphreys Sen. Verna Jones-Rodwell Julian L. Lapides William Lee, LCSW John Maclay Malcolm William Mason Kristen Mitchell Barbara Mobarak, AAIA Kenneth Morgan Mara Murdoch, AIA Bill Pencek Wayne R. Schaumburg Don Scott Tori Simms Romaine Stec Somerville James Suttner, AIA Susan W. Talbott Mark Thistel **Betty Bland Thomas** Barbara K. Weeks

Johns W. Hopkins Executive Director Secretary Anthony Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Re: Support for Baltimore City TIGER VI Grant

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to support the City of Baltimore in its application for a TIGER VI Discretionary Grant to fund the Red Line Transportation Opportunities Plans (TOPS).

Baltimore Heritage is a non-profit historic preservation organization, and we have worked closely with the Red Line to bring transportation and economic development to neighborhoods in Baltimore. The TOPS master plan will go a long way towards our shared goal of using light rail planning, construction, and operations to benefit entire communities.

Through the decade of planning for the Red Line, Baltimore City has instituted an open and collaborative process with citizens groups like ours, residents and other stakeholders. The TOPS planning will further this already constructive process by establishing partnerships and a planning framework so that the public transportation project will leverage employment, affordable housing, and economic development. The planning will involve regional, as well as local partners, and will help establish measurable benchmarks to ensure the public transportation project can lift up Baltimore neighborhoods as much as possible.

Thank you for your attention, and I urge you to support this important initiative.

Sincerely,

Johns W. Hopkins Executive Director

410-332-9992

hopkins@baltimoreheritage.org



### www.baltimoreindustrialgroup.org

A Non-Profit Trade Organization Recognized under Section 501(c) (6) of the IRS Code 1986

April 16th 2014

Secretary Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Red Line Transportation Operation Plan (Planning Grant)

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

The Baltimore Industrial Group (BIG) was established by prominent public and private business organizations in the Baltimore metropolitan region to advocate for industry and maritime operations. We represent an array of businesses involved in manufacturing, transportation, maritime, shipping and warehousing. BIG members alone employ 16,000 workers directly and indirectly in the Baltimore metropolitan area

We have been advised that the City of Baltimore, Maryland, will soon submit a proposal for a TIGER VI Discretionary Grant to fund the Red Line Transportation Opportunities Plan (REDTOP). The REDTOP, which, we understand, is a Functional Master Plan and, will establish a framework for the City's investment in transportation, education, recreation, and economic development. Through an interdisciplinary, inter-jurisdictional and stakeholder driven process, REDTOP will plan for infrastructure and community investments that:

- Derives the full community benefit of the federal, state and local Red Line commitment;
- Optimizes productivity of the transportation system and public/private investment;
- Realizes improved community connections to regional economic opportunities;
- Maximizes public and private involvement in transforming Baltimore: and,
- Develops policies to promote sustainable economic development and job creation.

The implementation of REDTOP will lead to investment in Baltimore's citizens and we have emphasized the third bullet point as the maritime and industrial businesses in Baltimore are in urgent need of a better intra-city public transportation network to staff our expanding operations as well as providing meaningful work to our neighbors within the city.

Continued/..

Additionally it will establish interagency partnerships, policies, plans and strategies for ladders of opportunity. These will include strengthening access and connection to employment, workforce development, affordable housing, education, recreation, public safety and economic development.

Multi-year programs will be developed for access and connectivity by all transportation modes through intra city, inter regional; and other investments. REDTOP will establish metrics, project schedules, and budgets for the management of the programs. Milestones will be established to measure performance in delivering expected benefits.

I would respectfully request that the City of Baltimore's funding application for REDTOP receive full consideration, in accordance with established policies and procedures.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

For The Baltimore Industrial Group

Chairman

c/o C. Steinweg (Baltimore) Inc., 1201 Wallace Street, Baltimore MD 21230 410.864.1922 r.denney@us.steinweg.com



April 18, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

Re: <u>Support for the TIGER Grant application submitted by the City of Baltimore to develop a Master Plan for access to and TOD around Red Line Stations</u>

**Dear Secretary Foxx:** 

The Baltimore Integration Partnership (BIP) is pleased to support the City of Baltimore's TIGER Grant application that will support the creation of master plans to foster station area planning for the Red Line.

A collaborative initiative supported by Living Cities and managed by the Association of Baltimore Area Grantmakers, the BIP is composed of partners in state, local and regional government, philanthropy, medical, higher education, and financial institutions working to advance economic inclusion approaches in Baltimore. Over the past three years, the initiative has helped move forward 13 redevelopment projects leveraging \$150 million in new investment in Baltimore and supported more than 500 job training job opportunities for area residents. By aligning capital and workforce partners, we have helped place more than 800 individuals in employment.

Through this work we have found that there is a severe mismatch between individuals seeking employment in the City and job opportunities which are predominately located in suburban areas. There is also a parallel need to continue to foster reinvestment, small business development and job creation in Baltimore City by targeting revitalization efforts and building from areas of strength. The Red Line presents a strategic opportunity for Baltimore to enable greater access to regional economic opportunities for area residents, foster new job opportunities during construction, and help catalyze further reinvestment in Baltimore neighborhoods.

This grant will build on recent investments the BIP has made in strategic planning with key state agencies and local workforce partners to connect area residents to workforce training partners as well as jobs within the Red Line. We also strongly believe it will help continue to foster strong local dialog, vision, and planning to fully capitalize on the opportunities the transit investment will bring for Baltimore.

Sincerely,

**Kurt Sommer** 

Director, Baltimore Integration Partnership Association of Baltimore Area Grantmakers



April 18, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support for the City of Baltimore's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application for Master Planning Studies of Improved Intermodal Access to Baltimore Red Line Stations and Transit Oriented Development

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

As Director of the Baltimore Neighborhood Collaborative (BNC), a funder collaborative within the Association of Baltimore Area Grantmakers, I am pleased to write this letter of support for the City of Baltimore's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application for Master Planning Studies of Improved Intermodal Access to Baltimore Red Line Stations and Transit Oriented Development.

The proposed Red Line will increase connectivity to jobs and services, and stimulate economic and community development in the communities along the route. Since 2004, BNC has invested in strategies to support citizen engagement in the planning process for station area planning and neighborhood master plans, as well as provided targeted support to nonprofit organizations for neighborhood marketing, homeownership and foredosure prevention counseling, and housing development. We have participated in the Red Line Community Compact and worked with City and State agencies to attract new resources to support development of the Red Line and transit-centered community development.

The TIGER Discretionary Grant will allow the planning process to advance a step further to ensure maximum community benefit.

Sincerely,

Ann Sherrill Director

ann sharill



April 21, 2014

Secretary Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx,

I am writing to express my support for the City of Baltimore's proposal for a TIGER VI Discretionary Grant to fund the Red Line Transportation Opportunities Plan (REDTOP).

The Baltimore Sustainability Plan establishes priorities for how Baltimore can grow and prosper in ways that meet the current environmental, social, and economic needs of our community without compromising the ability of future generations to meet those needs. The plan consists of 29 goals. REDTOP will help us achieve the Baltimore Sustainability Plan's Transportation Goal #1, "Improve public transit services" and #4, "Measure and improve the equity of transportation," and will also touch on many other important goals around greening, education and awareness, and fostering a green economy.

The Red Line is an amazing opportunity to create a more sustainable, connected, and resilient future for the citizens of Baltimore. By developing multi-year programs for access and connectivity for all transportation modes, and establishing metrics, project schedules, and budgets for the management of these programs, REDTOP will play a vital role in ensuring that both our city and the region get the greatest benefit from this opportunity.

I respectfully request that the City of Baltimore's funding application for REDTOP receive full consideration, in accordance with established policies and procedures. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Beth Ann Strommen

Director

### BEATTY · DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E. Washington, DC 20590

Baltimore City Tiger Grant Application

Dear Secretary Foxx:

Beatty Development Group is a mixed-use real estate development firm headquartered in the Fells Point neighborhood of Baltimore City. We are writing today in support of the City's effort to receive TIGER Grant funding to study transitoriented development in the Baltimore area.

Baltimore City's transit system, while improving, lacks several key pieces needed to resolve issues within its transportation infrastructure. The proposed Red line is a key component aimed at reducing excessive congestion on city streets, improving environmental sustainability by encouraging the use of alternative forms of transportation, and linking several areas lacking connectivity via public transportation.

Additions and improvements to Baltimore's existing infrastructure not only benefit the City from the standpoint of transportation interconnectivity, but also provide a unique opportunity to incentivize the economic development of several neighborhoods desperately in need. More specifically, the addition of the Red Line will help create jobs, bridge the City's uneven patterns of density, improve efficiency and effectiveness of existing infrastructure, and be a driving force in the transformation of several of the city's blighted areas.

We believe the study is an essential step towards ensuring that the investment is allocated in the most efficient manner possible. We appreciate your consideration of this application. If awarded, this study will have a lasting effect on the City of Baltimore and its residents.

Sincerek

Marco Greenberg, VP

Beatty Development Group



April 15, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E. Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing today in support of the City of Baltimore's application to the national economic stimulus call for projects by the TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) Discretionary Grant Program. The project, Baltimore's Red Line, will be a major step in improving Baltimore citizens' access to opportunities. However, additional work is required to develop a plan and programs to provide access to jobs, grow transit ridership, stimulate development of affordable housing, improve educational opportunities, and increase the resident population of the City.

The TIGER Grant Funding will help to develop a Functional Master Plan that establishes a framework for the City's investment in transportation, education, recreation, and economic development. It will involve an interdisciplinary, inter-jurisdictional and stakeholder driven process, and plan for infrastructure and community investments that:

- Derives the full community benefit of the federal, state and local Red Line commitment
- Optimizes productivity of the transportation system and public/private investment;
- Realizes improved community connections to region wide economic opportunities; and,
- Maximizes public and private involvement in transforming Baltimore.

The implementation of the plan will lead to investment in Baltimore's citizens. It will establish interagency partnerships, policies, plans and strategies for ladders of opportunity. These will include strengthening access and connection to employment, workforce development, affordable housing, education, recreation, public safety and economic development. Bon Secours Baltimore Health System has been a major employer, health care and service provider to the communities surrounding the Red Line for well over 100 years. As an anchor institution whose mission is to serve those communities, we thank you for your consideration and urge your support of this important project.

Sincerely,

Samuel L. Ross, MD Chief Executive Officer

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April 10, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

Re: Support for the TIGER Grant application submitted by the City of Baltimore to develop a Master Plan for access to and TOD around Red Line Stations

Dear Secretary Foxx:

On behalf of the Central Maryland Transportation Alliance, I urge your strong support for the City of Baltimore's TIGER grant application for the development of a Master Plan for access to and TOD around Red Line Stations.

The Central Maryland Transportation Alliance was formed in 2007 as a diverse coalition of corporate and civic leaders uniting business, philanthropic and institutional sectors around a common agenda: improving and expanding transportation options for the citizens and businesses of Central Maryland. Our singular focus is to be a catalyst for improving the region's transportation.

The Baltimore Red Line is a critically important project for building the east-west line our regional rail system currently lacks and uniting our mostly stand-alone rail lines in a network that will better connect city residents with centers of employment opportunity inside and outside the city. It will be particularly impactful for low-income residents who lack access to a car or need a more affordable alternative to commuting by car, yet find the current public transportation options inefficient.

However, we cannot stop at simply building the light rail. To ensure that the project benefits the communities it touches we need to leverage the investment in building the rail line with investments in community development around its stations. Baltimore City has realized this from the very early stages of the project through its stewardship of the Red Line Community Compact and its involvement with the Station Area Advisory Committees during the preliminary engineering phase. For our part the Transportation Alliance also recognized this through our 2009 Central Maryland TOD Strategy Report done in partnership with Reconnecting America and a team of local stakeholders including multiple City of Baltimore agencies. The necessary next step is a framework for investing in transportation, education, affordable housing, parks and other improvements focused around the planned red line stations. The Master Plan proposed in

### Page 2

the City's TIGER grant application does that. It embodies the spirit of the Obama Administration's Sustainable Communities initiative by addressing the critical need to invest in Baltimore's urban core while building the transportation infrastructure essential to support sustainable economic growth and access to economic opportunity.

I strongly urge the U.S. Department of Transportation to fully fund this grant application. Please feel free to contact me with any questions regarding our organization and its support for this important project.

Sincerely,

Brian O'Malley, AICP President & CEO

Cc: Sen. Barbara Mikulski, Sen. Ben Cardin, Rep. Elijah Cummings, Gov. Martin O'Malley, Mayor Stephanie Rawlings Blake, County Executive Kevin Kamenetz

April 18, 2014

Secretary Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590



Dear Secretary Foxx:

As Executive Director of Citizens Planning and Housing Association, Inc., (CPHA), I am writing today in support of the proposal for a TIGER VI Discretionary Grant to fund the Red Line Transportation Opportunities Plan (REDTOP). The REDTOP, which is a Functional Master Plan, will establish a framework for Baltimore City's investment in transportation, education, recreation, and economic development.

CPHA continues to be enthusiastic about the Baltimore Region and encouraged by this opportunity to develop a quality mode of transportation known as the RedLine. CPHA has been engaged in transportation issues since its inception 1941 and at this moment the RedLine would be the catalyst for a more equitable region. Today some Baltimore communities are disconnected from jobs and the basic necessities of life; especially in distressed communities. The Red Line begins to address these challenges by continuing the Maryland Transit Administration's evolution to a system which provides improved access within the Baltimore Region and beyond. The Red Line is a major step in improving Baltimore citizens' access to opportunities. However, additional work is required to develop a plan and programs to provide access to jobs, grow transit ridership, stimulate development of affordable housing, improve educational opportunities, and increase the resident population of the City.

The implementation of the REDTOP will lead to investment in Baltimore's citizens. It will establish interagency partnerships, policies, plans and strategies for ladders of opportunity. These will include strengthening access and connection to employment, workforce development, affordable housing, education, recreation, public safety and economic development. Plan will address:

I would respectfully request that the City of Baltimore's funding application for REDTOP receive full consideration, in accordance with established policies and procedures.

Sincerely,

Melvin L. Freeman Executive Director



April 21, 2014

Secretary Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Re: Red Line Transportation Operation Plan (Planning Grant)

#### Dear Secretary Foxx:

It has come to my attention that the City of Baltimore, Maryland, will soon submit a proposal for a TIGER VI Discretionary Grant to fund the Red Line Transportation Opportunities Plan (REDTOP). The REDTOP, which is a Functional Master Plan, will establish a framework for the City's investment in transportation, education, recreation, and economic development. Through an interdisciplinary, inter-jurisdictional and stakeholder driven process, REDTOP will plan for infrastructure and community investments that:

- Derives the full community benefit of the federal, state and local Red Line commitment;
- Optimizes productivity of the transportation system and public/private investment;
- Realizes improved community connections to regional economic opportunities;
- Maximizes public and private involvement in transforming Baltimore: and,
- Develops policies to promote sustainable economic development and job creation.

The implementation of REDTOP will lead to investment in Baltimore's citizens. It will establish interagency partnerships, policies, plans and strategies for ladders of opportunity. These will include strengthening access and connection to employment, workforce development, affordable housing, education, recreation, public safety and economic development.

Multi-year programs will be developed for access and connectivity by all transportation modes through intra city, inter regional; and other investments. REDTOP will establish metrics, project schedules, and budgets for the management of the programs. Milestones will be established to measure performance in delivering expected benefits.

I would respectfully request that the City of Baltimore's funding application for REDTOP receive full consideration, in accordance with established policies and procedures.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Kristine Dunkerton, Esq.

**Executive Director** 

1956 West Fayette Street Unit 2 Baltimore, Maryland 21223-1692 mobile (443) 814-4661

16.April, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, Southeast Quadrant
Washington, D.C. 20590

Subject: Letter of Support for the Baltimore Region's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application

for Master Planning Studies of Improved Intermodal Access to Red Line Stations and

**Transit-Oriented Development** 

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am pleased to offer this letter in support of the Baltimore region's TIGER discretionary grant application for master planning studies of improved intermodal access to Red Line stations and transit-oriented development.

For too long, Baltimore citizenry along the proposed route of the Red Line have lived amongst deplorable economic conditions due to decades of decay, neglect, and a complex mix of socio-economic problems. In my neighborhood, it is not uncommon to witness regular activity that may remind one of life in third-world countries. Neighborhood residents feel they have no hope to emerge into a life experienced in nearby U.S. Postal Service codes. Transit-oriented development around these proposed stations has the promise of increased opportunities for the community. As you will recall in your experience as mayor of Charlotte, we are proud of some of our strong institutions in Baltimore city. Without adequate and effective transportation options, showcasing our gems is difficult.

I urge the U.S. Department of Transportation give full consideration to the Baltimore region's proposal.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Jay Andrew Keithline



April 14, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx, Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support for the City of Baltimore's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application for Master Planning Studies of Improved Transit Oriented Development and Intermodal Access to Baltimore Red Line Stations

Dear Secretary Foxx:

On behalf of Coppin State University I would like to express our support and enthusiasm for the City of Baltimore's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery application.

For over 110 years Coppin State University has been educating and preparing students for real world challenges. The university has a long history of producing some of the most talented and committed educators, nurses, criminal justice professionals and entrepreneurs in the country. In addition to our long and storied history in academia we are committed to the growth and development of Baltimore City in terms of improving and expanding transportation options for all of its citizens. To this end we have been involved in many community meetings pertaining to transit oriented development around Red Line Stations.

It is our firm belief that the development of a Master Plan for access to and around Red Line stations is the next logical step in the continued development of the Red Line Transit Project. The Red Line is recognized as an extremely important transportation project here in the Baltimore region. It will provide an East West transit option and connect existing bus and rail lines thereby connecting city residents who live near the station areas to training and employment opportunities throughout the region. But, it is also an economic development tool in that it offers the potential to lead to positive economic development benefits in the local project areas.

The Red Line Transit Oriented Development Study that is proposed in the City's TIGER Grant application will allow the Baltimore Region to go beyond building a transit project. This Study will allow us to establish a framework for the City's investment in transportation, education,



recreation, and economic development. In addition it will lead to the development of strategies to make the best use of the federal, state and local investment in the Red Line.

Coppin State University strongly urges the US Department of Transportation to give full consideration to the City of Baltimore's proposal. This funding will provide the means to invest in Baltimore's urban core, build the transportation infrastructure essential to support sustainable economic growth, access to economic opportunity and maximize public and private involvement in transforming Baltimore.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely, Large D. Rodavelf

Dr. Gary Rodwell,

AVP for Office of External Engagement



### east baltimore development inc.

Community. Business. Opportunity.

Dear Friends of Red Line,

I am pleased to share with you "the Red Line Community Compact Annual Report 2013" that describes major accomplishments of 2013 and outlines the framework for the next year's realization. I would like to thank you for all your guidance and support to realize the goals of the Red Line Community Compact. Baltimore City is honored to partner and advocate with valued stakeholders to leverage the benefits and opportunities of the Red Line to the local communities.

To further advance the goals of the Community Compact, the City of Baltimore is putting together an application for Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant funds to study Transit Oriented Development (TOD) opportunities around Red Line Stations. In evaluating an application, USDOT takes into consideration the level of support that appears to exist for the proposed project. This TIGER grant clearly being an extension of "Community Centered Station Design, Development and Stewardship" goals of the Community Compact, I look forward to your continued support. If you or your organization would be interested in writing a letter of support please let me know and someone from our office will coordinate with you on details. In regard to our schedule for submitting everything to USDOT, we are working under a very tight schedule. Therefore, if we can have your letter by Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you again for your contribution to the success of this important intuitive.

Cheryl Washington

Senior Director of Community & Human Services

East Baltimore Development Inc.

# **Evergreen Protective Association**

PO Box 6958 - Baltimore, MD 21216

April 18, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support for the City of Baltimore's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application for Master Planning Studies of Improved Transit Oriented Development and Intermodal Access to Baltimore Red Line Stations

Dear Secretary Foxx:

On behalf of the Evergreen Protective Association I would like to express our support and enthusiasm for the City of Baltimore's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery application.

Evergreen Protective Association is a non-profit community organization located in the Evergreen neighborhood of West Baltimore. For over 60 years, Evergreen has worked to promote togetherness, good citizenship, and the free exchange of ideas for the advancement of the community. Our spirited members are bound by a strong dedication to quality of life and community service. Since we are located within the Red Line Corridor we have been involved in many community meetings pertaining to transit oriented development around the West Baltimore Red Line Station.

The Red Line will provide an East-West transit option and connect existing bus and rail lines thereby connecting residents who live near the station areas to training and employment opportunities throughout the region. Since many residents of the Evergreen community use transit, improved transit is a very important aspect of the project. But, the project also has the potential to serve as an economic development tool in that it offers the potential to lead to positive economic development which is needed in many of the local project areas.

The Red Line Transit Oriented Development Study that is proposed in the City's TIGER Grant application will allow for this to be more than just a transit project. The Study will provide an opportunity to establish a framework for the City's investment in transportation, education, workforce development, recreation, and economic development. Therefore we look forward to the stakeholder driven process that will lead to the development of this plan.

**Executive Officers** 

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## **Evergreen Protective Association**

PO Box 6958 - Baltimore, MD 21216

The Evergreen Protective Association strongly urges the US Department of Transportation to give full consideration to the City of Baltimore's proposal. This funding will provide the means to invest in Baltimore's urban neighborhoods, build the transportation infrastructure necessary to support sustainable economic growth, access to economic opportunity, and to take full advantage of the job creation potential that large transit projects like the Red Line can generate. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

John Bullock, Ph.D.

Evergreen Protective Association, President





## GREATER BALTIMORE COMMITTEE

Regional business leaders creating a better tomorrow...today.

Brian C. Rogers, Chair T. Rowe Price Group, Inc.

Donald C. Fry President & CEO

April 18, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave. S-E, Washington DC 20590

Subject: Letter of Support for the City of Baltimore's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application for Master Planning Studies of Improved Intermodal Access to Baltimore Red Line Stations and Transit Oriented Development

Dear Secretary Foxx:

As the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Greater Baltimore Committee, I am writing you to express support for the City of Baltimore's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application for Master Planning Studies of Improved Intermodal Access to Baltimore Red Line Stations and Transit Oriented Development.

The Greater Baltimore Committee is the leading business organization serving Baltimore City and Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford and Howard counties in the State of Maryland, a region with a population of approximately 2.6 million residents. The GBC is a fifty-eight year old private sector membership organization with a rich legacy of working in collaboration with government to find solutions to problems that negatively affect our competitiveness and viability as a region. It is an organization that prides itself on advocating for changes in public policies that strengthen the business community while improving the quality of life in the region.

The Red Line is a 14.1-mile, east-west light rail line that will run from Woodlawn through downtown Baltimore to the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical System. The Red Line is the connection that will finally make the value of Baltimore's transit system greater than the sum of its parts. It will connect to the Metro, MARC, north-south light rail and the Charm City Circulator. Integrated transit will identify Baltimore as a smart, sophisticated city poised to attract new residents.

Some Baltimore communities are disconnected from jobs and the basic necessities of life; especially in distressed communities. The Red Line begins to address these challenges by continuing the Maryland Transit Administration's evolution to a system that provides improved access within the Baltimore Region and beyond. In essence, the Red Line is a major step in improving Baltimore citizens' access to opportunities.

However, additional work is required to implement this vital connection to Baltimore's transit system and its attendant benefits, such as development of a plan and programs to provide access to jobs, to grow transit ridership, to stimulate development of affordable housing, to improve educational opportunities, and to increase the resident population of Baltimore.

The purpose the study to be covered by this grant funding is to develop a Functional Master Plan that establishes a framework for the City's investment in transportation, education, recreation, and economic development.

It will involve an interdisciplinary, inter-jurisdictional and stakeholder driven process. It will plan for infrastructure and community investments that derive the full community benefit of the federal, state and local Red Line commitment, optimize productivity of the transportation system and public/private investment, realize improved community connections to region-wide economic opportunities and maximize public and private involvement in transforming Baltimore.

The implementation of the plan will lead to investment in Baltimore's citizens. Nearly 550 acres of land are forecast to be planned for development or redevelopment within the Red Line corridor, with millions of square feet in gross development projected.

Use of the Red Line is forecast to result in 67,000 fewer daily automobile miles traveled, reducing commuter travel costs by between 30-50 percent, and reducing air pollution by 566 kilograms per day.

Most important, the Red Line is a jobs line. The Red Line will provide convenient rail transit access to more than 97,000 residents who currently live within a half-mile of stations and to more than 184,000 jobs currently within that radius – 68 percent of employment in the city. More than 210,000 jobs are forecast to be within station areas by 2030 – approximately 73 percent of all forecast jobs in the city. Impressive for one single new transit line!

I appreciate your consideration of the City of Baltimore's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application. I believe that if it is approved, it will have a positive impact the benefits the Red Line will afford Baltimore for both the business community and the citizens of this great city.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Donald C. Fry President and CEO

# Empowering Communities. Changing Lives.

J. Howard Henderson, President & CEO | 512 Orchard Street | Baltimore, MD 21201 | (410) 523-8150

Secretary Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590 April 18, 2014

## Dear Secretary Foxx:

It has come to my attention that the City of Baltimore, Maryland, will soon submit a proposal for a TIGER VI Discretionary Grant to fund the Red Line Transportation Opportunities Plan (REDTOP). The REDTOP, which is a Functional Master Plan, will establish a framework for the City's investment in transportation, education, recreation, and economic development. Through an interdisciplinary, inter-jurisdictional and stakeholder driven process, REDTOP will plan for infrastructure and community investments that:

- Derives the full community benefit of the federal, state and local Red Line commitment;
- Optimizes productivity of the transportation system and public/private investment;
- Realizes improved community connections to regional economic opportunities;
- Maximizes public and private involvement in transforming Baltimore: and,
- Develops policies to promote sustainable economic development and job creation.

The implementation of REDTOP will lead to investment in Baltimore's citizens. It will establish interagency partnerships, policies, plans and strategies for ladders of opportunity. These will include strengthening access and connection to employment, workforce development, affordable housing, education, recreation, public safety and economic development.

Multi-year programs will be developed for access and connectivity by all transportation modes through intra city, inter regional; and other investments. REDTOP will establish metrics, project schedules, and budgets for the management of the programs. Milestones will be established to measure performance in delivering expected benefits.

I would respectfully request that the City of Baltimore's funding application for REDTOP receive full consideration, in accordance with established policies and procedures.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

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Sincerely,



#### **GREEKTOWN BOUNDARY**

Haven to Anglesea, Lombard to Boston

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The Honorable Anthony Foxx, Secretary United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Re: Letter of Support for the City of Baltimore's TIGER Discretionary Grant Application for Master Planning Studies of Improved Intermodal Access to Baltimore Red Line Stations and Transit Oriented Development

Dear Secretary Foxx,

I am writing this letter in support of Baltimore City's application for a TIGER grant. The Greektown CDC represents the major stakeholders of the greater Greektown community. Our community is within the boundaries of Baltimore City. We have made a significant investment into the revitalization of our community. This grant would allow for a study that will benefit our community's revitalization through long tern sustainability.

We believe that our community would benefit from a Red Line Transit Oriented Development Plan. Our community would greatly benefit by the transit connectivity that would be created thru a transit oriented development. It would benefit our community by increasing job opportunities. It would support our economic development by allowing citizens to traverse thru our community, shop at our stores, create new business opportunities and increase home ownership. It would also help to sustain the human value of the community: increase school attendance within our community, allow for residents better access to education outside of our community, increase attendance to the multi-cultural and recreational functions in our neighborhood and assist the growth of four faith communities. For our community to survive we need the ability to compete with other communities who have access to transit hubs.

The community believes that the Greektown Red Line Station will connect our community to other City and regional opportunities. It is because of the aforementioned points that we pray you look favorable upon the City of Baltimore and award the grant.

Feel free to contact me and please visit our web site <a href="www.greektowncdc.org">www.greektowncdc.org</a> to learn more about our community.

Sincerely,

George J. Moniodis

President

cc: Anthony Brown



#### **Greg Smith**

Director of Transportation, Johns Hopkins Facilities & Real Estate

April 18. 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

RE:

Support for the TIGER Grant application submitted by the City of Baltimore to develop a Master Plan for access to and TOD around Red Line Stations

Dear Secretary Foxx,

On behalf of Johns Hopkins University, I urge your support of the City of Baltimore's TIGER grant application for the development of a Master Plan for access to and TOD around Red Line Stations.

The Baltimore Red Line is a critically important project for building the east-west line our regional rail system currently lacks. Uniting our mostly standalone rail lines into a network will better connect city residents and visitors with employment centers, tourist destinations and many important areas inside and outside of the city.

But we cannot only build the light rail line. Investments in community development around the stations are vital to its success. Baltimore City has recognized this from the early stages through the Red Line Community Compact and Station Area Advisory Committees during engineering phases. The next step should consist of a framework for investing in transportation, education, affordable housing, parks and other improvements focused around the planned Red Line stations. The Master Plan proposed in the City's TIGER grant will help accomplish this. It embodies the spirit of the Obama Administration's Sustainable Communities initiative by addressing the critical need to invest in Baltimore's urban core while building the transportation infrastructure essential to support sustainable economic growth and access to opportunity.

I strongly urge the U.S. Department of Transportation to fully fund this grant application. Please feel free to contact me with any questions about JHU's support of this important project.

Sincerely,

Greg Smith

Director of Transportation Johns Hopkins University

cc: Sen. Barbara Mikulski, Sen. Ben Cardin, Rep. Elijah Cummins, Gov. Martin O'Malley, Mayor Stephanie Rawlings Blake, County Executive Kevin Kamenetz



April 11, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx, Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE Washington, DC 20590

## Dear Secretary Foxx;

The Southeast Community Development Corporation is one of the oldest CDC's in Baltimore, having been created by the Southeast Community Development Corporation and Senator Barbara Mikulski in 1975. We are writing in strong support of the Baltimore Tiger grant application.

The Red Line is a major step in improving Baltimore citizens' access to opportunities. However, additional work is required to develop a plan *and implementation strategy* to provide better access to employment, increase transit ridership, provide new housing opportunities, and grow the population of Baltimore.

This study will provide a Master Plan that establishes a framework for investment in transportation, education, recreation, and economic development.

It will involve an interdisciplinary, inter-jurisdictional and stakeholder driven process, and plan for infrastructure and community investments that:

- Provides the full community benefit of the federal, state and Red Line investments,
- Optimizes the transportation system and public/private investment,
- Realizes improved community connections to regional economic opportunities, and,
- Maximizes public and private involvement and investment in Baltimore.

The Southeast CDC has been a strong proponent of this approach for many years. In 2009, with assistance from the Baltimore Departments of Transportation, Planning and economic development we developed a plan to *maximize* the impact of a particular station in Southeast

Baltimore. Southeast Baltimore is one of the most successful areas in the City of Baltimore, with steady population growth, a new wave of young immigrant families from central and South America, one of the largest refugee resettlement programs funded by the US State Department, and ongoing investment by young suburban families in urban neighborhoods. These groups have consistently demonstrated strong interest in increased access to transit in Baltimore City and the Southeast CDC is committed to being a useful partner for City and State transportation officials.

Thank you again for considering the Baltimore Tiger grant application. Please feel free to contact me at 410.342.3234 x 33 or chris@southeastcdc.org if you have any questions.

Yours truly,

D. Christopher Ryer, President, Southeast Community Development Corporation

Baltimore, Maryland 21201-1508

April 15, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

Re: <u>Support for the TIGER Grant application submitted by the City of Baltimore to develop a</u>

<u>Master Plan for access to and TOD around Red Line Stations</u>

Dear Secretary Foxx:

The University of Maryland Baltimore Research Park Corporation strongly urges you to support the City of Baltimore's TIGER grant application for the development of a Master Plan for access to and TOD around Red Line Stations.

The UMB Research Park Corporation, working on behalf of the University of Maryland Baltimore, is the master developer of the UM BioPark, a 12 –acre University Research Park located in Baltimore's southwestern community of Poppleton. Today the BioPark consists of two multi-tenant research/office buildings housing 31 companies and institutes and a Forensic Medicine Center with total BioPark employment at 500 plus. A new 200,000 square foot office/lab building for commercial technology companies is under construction and will open in late 2015. The Maryland Proton Treatment Center, the twelfth such facility in the US and a \$200M project, will open for patients in late 2015 as well. A 167 all-suite hotel will open in mid- 2016. When fully developed the UM BioPark will have over 2 million square feet of commercial space with hundreds of companies employing over 3000 people.

The Red Line Poppleton Station will be built in the UM BioPark on West Baltimore and Fremont Streets. This block, the 700 block of West Baltimore, serves as the Gateway to the UM BioPark and to a historic, diversified, vibrant community of seven Baltimore neighborhoods. The University of Maryland Baltimore, one of the nation's leading academic medical centers, is located just one block east of the Station. The Poppleton Station offers a stunning opportunity for TOD that delivers on every front - significant and growing high tech employment and residential bases are expanding to support substantial and exciting retail and recreational establishments; a University community of students, faculty, administrators and visitors that sees 27,000 people coming to the campus each day.; a location that is within walking distance to the MARC Camden Station with service to and from DC, all metropolitan transit bus lines, Baltimore's Circulator, the Baltimore light rail and the subway.

The UMB Research Park Corporation owns many of the properties in the block where the Red Line Poppleton Station will be built. To demonstrate the strength of this location for TOD we have commissioned a first draft TOD concept design for the block that incorporates a privately developed rental apartment complex and a large commercial R&D/Office building, parking and retail development adjacent to the Poppleton Station. We are anxious to work with you, Baltimore City and the State of Maryland to refine this concept and develop the Poppleton Station into a national model for TOD.

A TIGER Grant awarded to the City of Baltimore is critical for advancing this development process at Poppleton and along all of Baltimore's Red Line.

Thank you for your partnership.

Sincerely.

James Hughes



## **April 18, 2014**

## **Red Line Transportation Opportunities Plan (Planning Grant)**

Secretary Foxx United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

It has come to my attention that the City of Baltimore, Maryland, will soon submit a proposal for a TIGER VI Discretionary Grant to fund the Red Line Transportation Opportunities Plan (TOPS). The TOPS, which is a Functional Master Plan, will establish a framework for the City's investment in transportation, education, recreation, and economic development. Through an interdisciplinary, inter-jurisdictional and stakeholder driven process, TOPS will plan for infrastructure and community investments that:

- Derives the full community benefit of the federal, state and local Red Line commitment;
- Optimizes productivity of the transportation system and public/private investment;
- Realizes improved community connections to regional economic opportunities;
- Maximizes public and private involvement in transforming Baltimore: and,
- Develops policies to promote sustainable economic development and job creation.

The implementation of TOPS will lead to investment in Baltimore's citizens. It will establish interagency partnerships, policies, plans and strategies for ladders of opportunity. These will include strengthening access and connection to employment, workforce development, affordable housing, education, recreation, public safety and economic development.

Multi-year programs will be developed for access and connectivity by all transportation modes through intra city, inter regional; and other investments. TOPS will establish metrics, project schedules, and budgets for the management of the programs. Milestones will be established to measure performance in delivering expected benefits.

I would respectfully request that the City of Baltimore's funding application for TOPS receive full consideration, in accordance with established policies and procedures.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Tom Noonan

President and CEO

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